

**REMARKS**

In the Final Office Action<sup>1</sup>, the Examiner rejected claims 41-44 and 46-49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,661,531 to Murphy et al. ("*Murphy*"), in view of U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2004/0070672 to Iwami et al. ("*Iwami*"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,751,299 to Denton et al. ("*Denton*"); allowed claims 1-6, 13-18, 25-30, and 37-39; and indicated that claim 45 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the claim objection and to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant proposes to amend claims 41, 48, and 49, and cancel claim 45. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-6, 13-18, 25-30, 37-39, 41-44, and 46-49 will remain pending.

In response to the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claim 45 (Final Office Action at page 8), Applicant proposes to cancel claim 45 and amend claims 41, 48, and 49 to include the subject matter of claim 45. This amendment overcomes the rejection and renders claims 1-6, 13-18, 25-30, 37-39, 41-44, and 46-49 in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

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<sup>1</sup> The Final Office Action contains a number of statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Final Office Action.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge  
any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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By: /David W. Hill/  
David W. Hill  
Reg. No. 28,220